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# FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

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## ALGERIA.

### Philippeville Declared Free From Plague.

According to information received December 15 from the minister of foreign affairs at Paris the city of Philippeville in Algeria has been declared free from plague.

## AUSTRALIA.

### Sydney—Examination of Rats.

The following information was taken from bulletins issued by the department of public health of New South Wales: During the three weeks ended November 4, 1911, 1,167 rats were examined for plague infection. No plague-infected rat was found.

The last case of human plague was reported May 29, 1909.

The last plague-infected rat was found April 25, 1911.

## BULGARIA.

### Cholera and Cholera Carriers.

The American chargé d'affaires at Bucharest reports: According to information received from the ministry of foreign affairs at Sophia, a case of cholera occurred in the district of Karnobat, Bulgaria, November 14. Bacteriological examination made November 15 showed 3 children in the same locality to be cholera carriers.

## CHINA.

### Hongkong—Plague.

Surg. Brown reports November 13: During the week ended November 11, 2 cases of plague with 2 deaths were reported at Hongkong.

## GREECE.

### Cerebrospinal Meningitis.

Consul General Gale at Athens reports, December 1, that cases of cerebrospinal meningitis have appeared in different parts of Greece, particularly in Thessaly and Nauplia.

## HAWAII.

### Record of Plague Infection.

The last case of human plague at Honolulu occurred July 12, 1910.

The last plague-infected rat was found at Aiea, 9 miles from Honolulu, April 12, 1910.

A case of human plague was reported at Kapulena, Hawaii, October 28, 1911.

At Hilo the last case of human plague occurred March 23, 1910. A fatal case occurred at Honokaa, 60 miles from Hilo, April 20, 1911.

The last plague-infected rat was found at Honokaa February 2, 1911. A plague-infected rat was found at Hilo during the week ended June 10, 1911.

#### Honolulu—Plague-Prevention Work.

Chief Quarantine Officer Ramus reports, November 27 and December 5:

	Week ended Nov. 25.	Week ended Dec. 2.
Total rats and mongoose taken.....	671	471
Rats trapped.....	653	456
Mongoose trapped.....	5	14
Rats found dead.....		11
Rats shot from trees.....	13	
Examined bacteriologically.....	589	398
Classification of rats trapped:		
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i> .....	74	71
<i>Mus musculus</i> .....	158	64
<i>Mus norvegicus</i> .....	31	30
<i>Mus rattus</i> .....	390	290
Classification of rats shot from trees:		
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i> .....	4	
<i>Mus rattus</i> .....	9	
Average number of traps set daily.....	1,720	1,720

<sup>1</sup> *Mus rattus*.

#### Smallpox in Quarantine.

Dr. Ramus further reports the occurrence in quarantine December 19 of 1 new case of smallpox with 1 death; December 21, 1 death; December 24, 3 new cases with 1 death; December 25, 2 cases. The total number of cases from December 4 is 37 with 5 deaths.

#### INDIA.

##### Variations in Plague Conditions and Prevalence.

Consul General Michael at Bombay reports November 23:

The vagaries of plague are shown to a considerable degree in the report on plague administration for the year ended June 30, 1911, published by the government of the United Provinces. The report says in substance that plague attacked the province in 1910-11 in a more severe form than had been known in any previous year, with the exception of 1904-5. The number of deaths last year reached 314,495, while in 1904-5 it amounted to 354,285. The lowest mortality from this disease in the past 8 years was in 1908-9, when the death roll aggregated 13,814. In the month of March of the present year over 100,000 cases and nearly 95,000 deaths were recorded. A decline, however, set in during April, and by the beginning of June the disease had almost died out.

The report says: "It is unfortunate that our knowledge of the conditions favorable to the spread of the plague epidemic is not sufficiently advanced to enable a reliable explanation to be given of the violent fluctuations in seizures and deaths which occur from year to year."

The recent experience of the United Provinces shows that plague is more prevalent in years of plenty than in periods of agricultural